

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 SSO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

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NSC-07 OMB-01 SPC-03 SAM-01 EUR-25 USIE-00 PRS-01 L-03

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ISA/SA:MGCALDWELL

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JCS:BGCHRISTENSEN (INFO)

NEA/ARP:FMDICKMAN (DRAFT)

PM/SAS:COL.FARNHAM

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA NIACT IMMEDIATE

USCINCEUR IMMEDIATE

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INFO DOD/ISA

JCS

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DSAA

S E C R E T STATE 062810

JIDDA ONLY ZFF

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, MASS, SA, US

SUBJ: ROYAL SAUDI AIR FORCE SURVEY - TERMS OF REFERENCE

FOR USAF ELEMENT OF DOD TEAM

REF: JIDDA 1388

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1. DEPARTMENTS OF STATE AND DEFENSE HAVE PREPARED TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR U.S. AIR FORCE ELEMENT OF DOD SURVEY TEAM SCHEDULED DEPART FOR SAUDI ARABIA MARCH 27. IN DRAFTING THESE TERMS OF REFERENCE, VIEWS EXPRESSED REFTEL WERE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT.

2. EXT OF TERMS OF REFERENCE FOLLOWS:

TERMS OF REFERENCE - USAF ELEMENT OF DOD SURVEY TEAM TO SAUDI ARABIA - PART ONE - I. INTRODUCTION: (C)
THE US HAS PROVIDED MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO SAUDI ARABIA FOR OVER TWENTY YEARS, AND, WHILE SAUDI ARABIA PURCHASES ARMS AND SUPPORTING ASSISTANCE FROM OTHER WESTERN COUNTRIES, IT CONTINUES TO LOOK PRIMARILY TO THE US FOR ASSISTANCE AND ADVICE IN MODERNIZING ITS ARMED FORCES. MODERNIZATION PROGRAMS FOR THE ARMED FORCES BEGAN IN EARNEST IN THE MID 1960'S. IN APRIL-MAY 1970 THE US, AT SAUDI REQUEST AND AS A MEANS OF PROVIDING COORDINATION AND COHERENT DIRECTION TO THIS EFFORT, UNDERTOOK AN IN-COUNTRY REVIEW OF MODA PLANS AND PROGRAMS. THE PURPOSE OF THIS REVIEW WAS TO ASSIST THE SAUDI ARABIAN GOVERNMENT (SAG) IN EVALUATING ITS CURRENT AND PROJECTED DEFENSE PLANS AND PROGRAMS AND IN PREPARING A PROJECTION OF DEFENSE BUDGETARY REQUIREMENTS FOR A FIVE YEAR PERIOD. THE REPORT OF THE REVIEW TEAM'S FINDINGS (THE LEAHY REPORT) CONTAINED SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS AS REGARDS THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ROYAL SAUDI AIR FORCE (RSAF). AMONG THESE WAS THE RECOMMENDATION THAT THE RSAF SELECT AND CONTRACT FOR REPLACEMENT AIRCRAFT FOR THE F-86/T-33. THIS WAS DONE IN THE FOLLOWING YEAR WHEN SAG PURCHASED 50 F-5 AIRCRAFT, THE LAST OF WHICH ARE SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE IN SAUDI ARABIA IN OCTOBER 1974.

(S) IN DECEMBER 1973, THE SAG FORMALLY REQUESTED THAT THE USG CONDUCT A SURVEY OF ALL FACETS OF THE RSAF AND PRODUCE A MASTER PLAN FOR RSAF DEVELOPMENT OVER THE NEXT 5-10 YEARS. THE REQUEST SPECIFIED THAT THE PLAN SHOULD ADDRESS ITSELF NOT ONLY TO FUTURE AIRCRAFT NEEDS, BUT ALSO TO AIR FIELDS AND BASE FACILITIES, AIR DEFENSE, ARMAMENTS AND MANPOWER REQUIREMENTS.

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(S) IN MARCH 1974 THE USG AGREED TO UNDERTAKE AN RSAF SURVEY AND PROPOSED TO THE SAG THAT IT BE CARRIED OUT WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF AN OVERALL SURVEY OF THE MODA FORCES. THE MODA AGREED TO THIS WITH UNDERSTANDING THAT PRIORITY BE GIVEN TO THE RSAF PORTION OF THE SURVEY. HOWEVER, THE USG MADE NO COMMITMENT THAT IT WOULD IMPLEMENT THE MASTER PLAN FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE RSAF

AS MODA HAS REQUESTED.

II. POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC CONSIDERATIONS:

(U) SAUDI ARABIA POSSESSES THE WORLD'S LARGEST PROVEN OIL RESERVES AND IS THE ONLY OIL PRODUCER IN A POSITION TO SIGNIFICANTLY FILL THE GAP IN INCREASING WORLD PETROLEUM DEMAND. ITS FOREIGN EXCHANGE RESERVES NOW ABOUT \$4 BILLION) ARE INCREASING DRAMATICALLY AND ITS IMPORTS, WHICH TOTALED \$1.8 BILLION IN 1973, CONTINUE TO GROW.

(U) SAUDI ARABIA'S IMPORTANCE AS A REGIONAL POWER HAS GROWN IN RECENT YEARS AS IT EMERGED FROM RELATIVE POLITICAL ISOLATION. THIS EMERGED WITH SHARP CLARITY AT THE TIME OF THE OCTOBER ARAB-ISRAELI WAR. ON THE ARABIAN PENINSULA IT SEEKS TO ENCOURAGE AND MAINTAIN REGIONAL STABILITY AND MODERATE REGIMES FRIENDLY TO ITSELF. IT FEARS THE ENCROACHMENT OF SUBVERSIVE INFILTRATION INTO THE PENINSULA THROUGH THE MARXIST REGIME IN SOUTHERN YEMEN AND THE RADICAL REGIME IN IRAQ.

(C) DOD RELATED PROGRAMS IN SAUDI ARABIA ARE DESIGNED TO SUPPORT US POLICY OBJECTIVES IN SAUDI ARABIA. ESSENTIALLY THESE ARE TO ASSURE CONTINUED ACCESS TO PERSIAN GULF OIL; TO ENCOURAGE A POLITICALLY STABLE, MODERATE SAUDI ARABIA TO PLAY A CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE IN REGIONAL AFFAIRS; TO PROTECT US ACCESS TO THE GROWING SAUDI MARKET FOR IMPORTS; AND TO ASSURE CONTINUED US ACCESS TO SAUDI ARABIAN AIR SPACE AND PORTS. SINCE THE BRITISH DECISION TO WITHDRAW FROM THE PERSIAN GULF BY THE END OF 1971, IT HAS BEEN US POLICY TO ENCOURAGE
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SAUDI ARABIA AND IRAN TO ASSUME PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE SECURITY OF THE PERSIAN GULF AREA. WHILE THE IMPOSITION OF THE OIL EMBARGO AGAINST THE US CAUSED STRAINS IN US-SAUDI RELATIONS, IT WAS US POLICY DURING THE PERIOD OF THE EMBARGO TO MAINTAIN OUR LONG TERM POLICY TOWARD SAUDI ARABIA.

(C) FINALLY, IT IS IN THE US INTEREST TO ENCOURAGE SAUDI ARABIA TO CONTINUE TO LOOK TO THE US AS THE PRIMARY SOURCE OF GUIDANCE AND ADVICE IN ITS PROGRAMS TO MODERNIZE ITS ARMED FORCES.

PART TWO: III. MISSION -

(C) THE MISSION OF THE USAF ELEMENT OF THE DOD SURVEY

TEAM IS TO CONDUCT, IN RESPONSE TO THE SAG REQUEST, A SURVEY OF ALL FACETS OF THE ROYAL SAUDI AIR FORCE (RSAF) AND TO PREPARE A MASTER PLAN FOR RSAF DEVELOPMENT OVER THE NEXT 5-10 YEARS. THE OBJECTIVE SHOULD BE TO DETERMINE THE OPTIMUM RSAF FORCE STRUCTURE KEEPING IN MIND CURRENT AND PROJECTED THREAT ANALYSIS, THE LIMITATIONS IMPOSED BY MILITARY, PARAMILITARY, AND CIVILIAN MANPOWER CONSIDERATIONS, AND THE DESIRABLE BALANCE BETWEEN MODA FORCES.

IV. TIMING, SCOPE AND TASKS -

(C) A. THE USAF ELEMENT OF THE DOD TEAM, WILL MAKE AN IN-COUNTRY SURVEY OF THE RSAF DURING THE APPROXIMATE PERIOD 29 MARCH - 7 MAY 1974. THE MASTER PLAN FOR RSAF DEVELOPMENT SHOULD BE COMPLETED IN TIME TO BE SUBMITTED TO JCS FOR REVIEW AND TO STATE AND DOD FOR APPROVAL BEFORE PRESENTATION TO MODA BY 1 JUNE 1974.

(C) B. THE SCOPE OF THE SURVEY IS BROAD AND THE MASTER PLAN FOR RSAF DEVELOPMENT SHOULD ADDRESS NOT ONLY FUTURE AIRCRAFT FORCE LEVELS, BUT ALSO AIRFIELDS AND BASE FACILITIES, EARLY WARNING SYSTEMS, ARMAMENT SYSTEMS AND MANPOWER REQUIREMENTS.

(C) C. THE TASKS OF THE USAF ELEMENT OF THE DOD
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SURVEY TEAM ARE: (1) TO STUDY AND ASSESS THE VALIDITY OF CURRENT AND PROJECTED RSAF PROGRAMS IN LIGHT OF THE CURRENT AND ANTICIPATED THREAT;

(2) TO CONFIRM/DEVELOP AN RSAF CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS FOR THE DEFENSE OF THE KINGDOM;

(3) TO DETERMINE THE FORCE STRUCTURE NECESSARY FOR THE RSAF TO DEVELOP THE CAPABILITY TO DEFEND THE KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA;

(4) TO DEVELOP THE RSAF COMPONENTS NECESSARY FOR AN INTEGRATED, EFFECTIVE COMMAND AND CONTROL SYSTEM FOR THE ARMED FORCES SUPPORTED BY AN ADEQUATE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM;

(5) TO DEVELOP AN ADEQUATE LOGISTICS SYSTEM, FOR THE RSAF, INCLUDING MAINTENANCE;

(6) TO DEVELOP A PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM FOR THE RSAF.

V. (C) ASSUMPTIONS -

A. THE MISSION OF THE RSAF IS TO PROVIDE AN AIR FORCE TO DEFEND THE KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA. IN CONJUNCTION WITH OTHER ARMED FORCES, IT IS TO REPEL ANY AGGRESSION AND IS TO MAINTAIN THE INTEGRITY OF THE KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA, AS WELL AS ASSIST IN MAINTENANCE OF STABILITY BY SUPPORTING FRIENDLY FORCES THROUGHOUT THE ARABIAN PENINSULA.

B. SAUDI ARABIA WILL DEVELOP ITS AIR FORCE TO ITS OPTIMUM SIZE CONSISTENT WITH ITS MISSION AND ITS HUMAN AND MATERIEL RESOURCE LIMITATIONS.

C. TRAINED MANPOWER IS IN EXTREMELY SHORT SUPPLY IN SAUDI ARABIA AND IS LIKELY TO REMAIN SO IN THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE.

D. EXCEPT IN A TECHNICAL ADVISORY CAPACITY ONLY
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SAUDI NATIONALS WILL BE EMPLOYED IN THE RSAF. HOWEVER,
IT IS RECOGNIZED THAT DURING A TRANSITIONAL
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